

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ATHENS 13665 281629Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 OMB-01 /087 W
-----281635Z 011750 /44

R 281548Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4882
INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 13665

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, GR, KN, KS
SUBJECT: NORTH KOREANS CONTINUE PROBES TO ESTABLISH
DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

REF: A) ATHENS 5679 B) 75 ATHENS 8171

1. BILLING THEMSELVES AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NORTH KOREAN
LABOR PARTY, A THREE-MAN DELEGATION FROM THE NORTH KOREAN
EMBASSY IN BUCHAREST, LED BY AMBASSADOR PAK-YUG-GOUK (PHONETIC),
VISITED GREECE DECEMBER 17-24. THE NORTH KOREANS SPENT MUCH
OF THEIR TIME IN MEETINGS WITH GREEK OPPOSITION FIGURES
(EXCEPT FOR THE MOSCOW-ORIENTED COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE
EXTERIOR) BUT WERE REFUSED AN APPOINTMENT THEY REQUESTED AT
THE MFA. APPARENTLY THEY TOLD THOSE WITH WHOM THEY MET
(UNION OF THE DEMOCRATIC LEFT, THE PANHELLENIC SOCIALIST
MOVEMENT, THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE INTERIOR, AND THE UNION
OF THE DEMOCRATIC CENTER) OF THEIR UNDERSTANDING FOR THE
GREEK SIDE ON THE CYPRUS QUESTION AND THE AEGEAN DISPUTE
AND OF THEIR HOPE TO OPEN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ATHENS 13665 281629Z

GREECE. IN REPLY THEY HEARD PLEDGES OF SUPPORT FOR THE
UNIFICATION OF THE KOREAN PENINSULA AND THE INTENT OF
THE OPPOSITION TO PRESS IN PARLIAMENT FOR INSTITUTING
DIPLOMATIC TIES.

2. A SOURCE AT THE ROK EMBASSY TOLD US THAT THE NORTH

KOREANS HAD INITIALLY APPLIED TO THE GOG FOR VISAS SOME WEEKS AGO AND HAD BEEN REFUSED. THEN PASOK LEADER ANDREAS PAPANDREOU INTERJECTED HIMSELF AND PERSONALLY INVITED THEM TO VISIT. WHEN AMBASSADOR PAK AND HIS COLLEAGUES ARRIVED AT THE ATHENS AIRPORT WITHOUT VISAS, THE GOG AGREED, AS THEY HAD ON A PREVIOUS OCCASION (REFTEL A), TO PERMIT "SPECIAL ENTRY" TO CIRCUMVENT A NEEDLESS CLASH WITH THE FIERY OPPOSITION LEADER. HOWEVER, THE GOG REFUSED A REQUEST FOR THE NORTH KOREANS TO MEET WITH DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER STAVROPOULOS. PAPANDREOU HOSTED A RECEPTION FOR HIS GUESTS AND, IN TURN, WAS INVITED TO VISIT NORTH KOREA. COMMENT: THIS VISIT APPEARS TO BE ANOTHER PROBE BY THE NORTH KOREANS TO TEST THE TEMPERATURE...SO FAR THEY HAVE FOUND IT RATHER CHILLY. WHEN SOUTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR CHAE MADE A DEMARCHE TO STAVROPOULOS, ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCE, HE WAS TOLD BY THE DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER "NOT TO WORRY" AND WAS REASSURED THAT GREECE HAD NO INTENTION OF ESTABLISHING RELATIONS WITH NORTH KOREA. HOWEVER, THE EXPECTATION HERE IS THAT THERE WILL BE FUTURE MISSIONS TO TEST THE GOG'S TENACITY.

KUBISCH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, COMMUNISTS, PARTY MEETINGS, CONTACTS WITH COMMUNIST OFFICIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ATHENS13665
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760474-0069
From: ATHENS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976128/aaaaagnf.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 ATHENS 5679, 75 ATHENS 8171
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 APR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <23 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NORTH KOREANS CONTINUE PROBES TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, GR, KN, KS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006